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PHILLY VET PARADE

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'THE IRISHMAN'

Ray Romano gives the scoop on Scorsese's epic mob movie, 'The Irishman.' 2

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Ray Romano is finally on Martin Scorsese's radar

The actor and comedian stars in the mob epic, "The Irishman."

JAMES CASE

The title to Ray Romano's decade-defining sitcom was rife to be a play on words. If there was a title for his initial professional contact with director Martin Scorsese it would be "Everybody Loves Raymond Except For Martin Scorsese Because He Literally Has No Idea Who He Is." In fact, he had first become aware of Romano during the process of directing and casting the pilot for "Vinyl" – the 1970's HBO music series that Scorsese created with Mick Jagger. Their team requested a tape from Romano.

"So, we sent it in and their response was Marty likes what he saw," Romano said. "He's considering Ray. And he's never heard of Ray. No, not kidding. And we, my agent and I, were like - so he's never seen the show? She goes, 'No, he's actually never heard of it.'"

Such is the dividing line for one of the highest-paid and well-known sitcom actors of all time and one of the most well-regarded directors of all time. The awareness overlap wasn't even mutual.

An actor with the career success that Romano had with his nine-season show on CBS can see how it's difficult for people to want to see him in a different light. The fact that Scorsese had never heard of him was an opportunity.

"Marty doesn't watch TV," Romano said. "I was lucky when Marty hadn't seen anything that I had done. It was just fresh."

GETTY IMAGES

And further, many comedy-based performers see a difference between stand-up and performing as an "actor" as a barrier in both perception and career track. Success can become a saddle when approaching a next move to one or the other. Fortunately, Romano has seen the long-term process in simpler terms and with good fortune.

"It wasn't like I started out saying stand-up is my passion. I found that, just knowing that I wanted to perform somehow. And I said, 'Oh, this is it.' Stand-up is what I want to do. And then I got the opportunity to act and now I want to do both," Romano said.

"I had messed around in acting. You know, I took drama in college and all that. But once I got into stand-up, that was my passion. And that's what I felt I did the best. And then 'Everybody Loves Raymond' came from that. David Letterman saw me on his show and signed me to a deal to develop a show and that's how 'Everybody Loves Raymond' came to be. So, I wasn't pursuing the acting. I always had a thought and a desire to do something with acting. But my goal is to be a great stand-up [comedian] and that's what I was doing when 'Everybody Loves Raymond' came. And then I was 'Everybody Loves Raymond' for nine years. But I always had this desire and a part of my dream wasn't to be a sitcom actor. I love that show, and I love the sitcom and I'm proud of it. But when it was over, I was interested in trying something, not 'heavy drama,' but definitely exploring that area."

In "The Irishman," Romano gets that chance. His portrayal of legendary teamster union lawyer Bill Bufalino supports the integrity of the whole structure and Romano nails his part. Bufalino worked closely with Jimmy Hoffa and overlapped regularly with the other principals of the mob crime epic. The film grapples with weighty issues, such as the consequences of crime and the influence a small circle of men had on the 20th century.

"Bufalino was not like, this intimidating criminal presence. The big impression isn't that he wasn't one of those guys, but he was still in that world," Romano said.

The central character, Frank Sheeran, the titular "Irishman," is gradually pulled into a criminal circle, sometimes of his own accord and sometimes by how the world makes its accords for you. The consequences of his and the group's decisions become weightier as time passes and the reality of this and their world envelop around him. Scorsese said that he views Sheeran, at his core, as a good person.

"If you took that same man and his same soul and started his life in a different way, I can see what he means that there's a core of a person there, and his path took him into this world. And he did some horrible things. But, I think with this movie, Marty was showing how it's not as black and white as people think. And that's what's unique about the movie," Romano said.

"There's an emotional core that's similar, no matter where you are in life, you could be in this criminal world, or outside and we all feel the same things. Unless you're a sociopath."

"The Irishman" will be in select theatres Nov. 1 and will stream on Netflix starting Nov. 27.

Why going to an NCI-designated cancer center matters

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Cancer isn't always easily diagnosed and treated. Most patients are on a long-term journey toward healing and recovery as they find their way toward wholeness. It's something that often takes a psychological toll on patients, but having the right team of experienced health care providers by your side can make all the difference.

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So what does the NCI designation mean?

It indicates to patients that the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center has been recognized as an outstanding cancer center by the National Cancer Institute, which is a government agency that reviews and funds a large swath of U.S. cancer research. The designation is a prestigious one—only 71 cancer centers nationwide have the NCI's stamp of approval.

What's more, the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center also happens to be one of eight Prostate Cancer Centers of Excellence. They are proud of these titles, working to spearhead research and develop innovative new treatments for many types of cancers.

What does it mean for treatment?

It means that patients can expect truly transdisciplinary care that enlists the help of a variety of cancer specialists. The Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center develops truly personalized and comprehensive treatment plans that are tailored to the individual patient. In other words, each and every patient is seen as a whole person who deserves a 360-degree approach to care.

The Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center – Jefferson Health does this by leading the way in breakthrough clinical research. Clinical trials have the power to unlock novel therapies for difficult-to-treat cancers, enhancing the quality of life for many patients. Their researchers are driven to support patients every step of the way, from diagnosis through survival.

This passion goes hand in hand with the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center's commitment to community outreach. Being an NCI-designated cancer center means that they're dedicated to arming the public with the latest news and information. It's built on a respect for public education that includes active outreach in traditionally underserved communities. This, in turn, is helping to reduce cancer disparities throughout our local Philadelphia community.

How does the NCI designation impact patient well-being?

Cancer isn't just a physical diagnosis—it's something that can turn a person's life upside down. At the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, treatment is centered on a comprehensive plan of care that's focused on every aspect of well-being. The Neu Center for Supportive Medicine and Cancer Survivorship provides customized support that addresses emotional wellness, which is easily overlooked

"This, coupled with advanced care teams, is what makes the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center such a forward-thinking cancer center that continues to deliver positive outcomes for so many patients," says Dr. Karen Knudsen, the center's director.

The Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center - Jefferson Health is doing incredible work in the Philadelphia community and beyond. Visit JeffersonHealth.org/Cancer or call 1-800-JEFF-NOW to learn more.

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ARTS & CULTURE

FIRST GLANCE FILM FESTIVAL

Check out a slew of incredibly entertaining, unique and one-of-a-kind films at this movie extravaganza. According to the release, over 40 original indie films from Philadelphia and around the world will be in competition during the weekend event, and it all kicks off Nov. 1 at the Philadelphia Film Center. A full list of films and events is available online. **Nov. 1-3, various times, various locations, Philadelphia, prices vary, firstglancefilms.com**

FIRST FRIDAY

On the first Friday of each month Old City's galleries, studios, shops and restaurants open their doors for First Friday, a unique and memorable exhibition of the neighborhood's vibrant arts scene. All of the galleries, studios, shops, bars and restaurants participating are offering drink specials, delicious food, live music and much more. **Nov 1, 6 p.m.- 10 p.m., various locations, Old City, Philadelphia, prices vary, oldcitydistrict.org**

FOOD & DRINKS

BOURBON & BEN

Every Friday night from 5 pm to 7 pm holds a delicious occasion at Old City hotspot, Franklin Social. Philadelphians can indulge in their signature cocktail the Franklin 46 Apple Cider (apple cider, Makers Mark and brown sugar syrup) paired with a delicious apple cider fritter and spicy pork belly for only $12. **Every Friday, 5 pm-7 pm, Franklin Social, 401 Chestnut St., $12, marriott.com**

THE REVEREND'S GUIDE BOOK AND SPIRIT LAUNCH

Art in the Age is celebrating two spirited events this weekend: The launch of "The Good Reverend's Guide to Infused Spirits" by Michael Alan and Sonia Kurtz and The Reverend's Universal Spirit. Guests who attend the event can have their star chart read, have Aura Portraits by Starlight Angels (must reserve, $50), chat with The Rev himself, enjoy a cocktail menu using recipes from the book and much more. **Nov. 1, 6 pm-9 pm, Art in the Age, 116 N 3rd St., pay-as-you-go, artintheage.com**

GOING OUT

2ND ANNUAL SPIRIT OF LANSDALE DAY

Nov. 2 is officially the Spirit of Lansdale Day in honor of Boardroom Spirits opening their expanded tasting room in 2018, and celebrity chef Robert Irvine will also be in attendance at this colorful fundraising event. According to the release, admission includes a welcome drink 'The Foundation', tours of the distillery, music from Mas Tequila Orchestra, and giveaways. 100% of proceeds from admission and 20% of proceeds from the cash bar will go directly to the Robert Irvine Foundation. **Nov. 2, 4 pm-10 pm, Boardroom Spirits Distiller, 575 W 3rd St., Lansdale, $30, boardroomspirits.com**

SHOPPING

CLOVER MARKET

Philadelphians, get ready to shop till you drop at the traveling Clover Market. This popular shopping mecca features an interesting and unique mix of vendors selling plenty of handmade goods, artistic trinkets, colorful gifts and more while setting up shop in different parts of the area. This weekend, Clover Market will be stopping in Kennett Square, and everyone is invited out to check out the interesting offerings this market provides. **Nov. 3, 10 am-4 pm, 600 S. Broad St., free, theclovermarket.com**

HEALTH & FITNESS

THE 5TH ANNUAL ALL CITY 20 AND 10 MILER

Get your last training run in this weekend before the main event on Nov. 24th. According to the release, the Philadelphia Marathon Weekend is supporting two local programs for this year's training run: Students Run Philly Style (works with youth ages 12-18) and Team Philly Race Training (supports Philadelphians who are either beginner or intermediate runners). Both training runs are open to the public and both will also follow the same course. Pace groups and hydration stations will be involved in both runs, and afterward, runners can also enjoy food, music and giveaways. Registration is open online. **Nov. 2, 7 am-11 am, Lloyd Hall, 1 Boathouse Row, Philadelphia, free, phillyrun.ticketleap.com/2019all-city-20-miler-10-miler-too**

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WEEK 39: 10/28-11/3/19

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Playing with passion

Lisa Fischer and her band Grand Baton will be joined on stage by The Philadelphia Youth Orchestra.

MOLLY GIVEN

GETTY IMAGES

Celebrated musician Lisa Fischer has had quite a colorful career singing background and touring with megastars such as Chaka Khan, the Rolling Stones, Tina Turner and Cher. The songstress was even featured in the 2013 Oscar-winning documentary film "20 Feet from Stardom." That same year, Fischer joined the New York-based rock and jazz fusion band Grand Baton and began touring with them regularly, but this time as lead singer. This Friday (Nov. 1), Fischer is bringing her incredible vocals to Verizon Hall and will be joined by the mesmerizing Philadelphia Youth Orchestra for a unique concert experience featuring songs by Luther Vandross, Tina Turner, the Rolling Stones and Sting. Fischer sat down with Metro to give the scoop on what to expect at the show this weekend.

Throughout your colorful career, has anything stuck out to you over the years?

Every artist to me has their own special shine and their own special way of communicating, and their own passion. Having had time to get a little bit of music theory and singing in choirs and just being around people who are passionate about making music was such a great foundation for me. When I would walk into different situations with different groups it'd be all about supporting the artist and their purpose — looking back that has been what has prepared me the most for now.

When did you first start with your band, Grand Baton?

I started with them in 2013, and we toured mostly on versus off. It's been a really great experience for me because I was just so scared to death. I really thought, "What the heck am I going to do?" I'm so used to singing background. I would sing lead vocals in recording sessions, but it's different to sustain a full consciousness of an hour or two hours of music. So during that whole time touring with Grand Baton it was really a great time for me to really get to know myself — or forget myself really. It gave me clarity on what I truly want to share with the audience. The healing power of music is really important to me, and I also found if it's not something that I feel passionate about then I can't do it.

You're collaborating with the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra for the concert this weekend, what is it like for you performing with a full orchestra?

It's pretty special. To me, each instrument has a life and a breath, and behind the instruments are the lives of these wonderful people who have decided to devote themselves to this one instrument. The fact that it's a youth orchestra makes it even more special because they are right in the thrills of developing everything that they love. So all that passion for me comes through with the newness and excitement of reading the music and being one not only with each other as an orchestra, but to have such an open heart to invite and make space for Grand Baton and I. Josephine Lee is also such an amazing conductor — I just love the way she pulls everyone together, it's like a dance. And the vibrations of the sounds for me is just beyond.

What has gone into preparing for the concert?

It takes so much to pull together something with a group this large, but luckily, they have space where they can be one with each other. We've had a bit of time together to rehearse too, which has been really helpful. I'm just looking forward to seeing what it all sounds like on Friday, because it has been sounding just amazing in rehearsals — it's really unbelievable.

If you go:

Nov. 1, 8 p.m., Verizon Hall, 300 S Broad St., $30+, kimmelcenter.org

How did you choose the songs you're going to perform?

The charts have to be made, arranged and tied out way in advance. The choice of songs is more to do with my life experience — more about songs that I like to sing background on and then transferring to sing lead on them. So it's been really great to sort of re-imagine them. JC Maillard, our musical director, has been really instrumental in helping to get the sound and helping with the charts and arrangements with the orchestra. So it's been really great just molding it for me, and I'm excited because you know, I have a little bit of classical experience but most of my life has really been more doing rock n' roll and soul, rhythm and blues — so all of those elements really blend together and it's been really groovy for me to kind of just bathe in it.

Overall what would you tell people to expect at the concert this Friday?

Hopefully, people feel a connection. Not only with what they're listening to, but also with who they are listening with. For me, the most important thing is that when they hear songs, they build a camaraderie with the people around them. Sharing with each other as an audience to become one is part of the transformation for me.

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'They deserve our appreciation, and they deserve people to come out and say thank you'

The Philadelphia Veteran's Day Parade is this weekend. PROVIDED

The Philadelphia Veteran's Day Parade and Vet Fest is this weekend. MOLLY GIVEN

This Sunday marks a special occasion for the city of Philadelphia. The 5th Annual Veteran's Day Parade and Festival kicks off at 12 pm, and this year more than 150 organizations spanning over 7,000 participants and 21 Veteran Service Organizations are participating to make it the most memorable occasion yet.

"What I want people to do is look for the veterans," says Anthony Murphy, President of the Veteran's Parade executive board. "Veterans are an intricate part of the freedoms that we enjoy. Without them, we wouldn't have anything. [In the parade] we have veterans from World War II and all of the other conflicts and wars. We also have a 99-year-old veteran who is going to be riding in a corvette, and our Grand Marshall this year is a 96-year-old vet—he truly exemplifies someone who fought for this country to be."

Murphy has been with the parade since the very beginning, and he says the most important takeaway from this meaningful event should be the fact that we are among many unsung heroes. It's time to show them the appreciation they so rightfully deserve.

"We have representatives from the Montford Point Marines, most people won't know who they are, but they were the first black marines in our army," says Murphy. "So there are a lot of unique things about veterans that people don't know. If you look for those things in the parade it'll be an enlightenment. You've seen movies about different subjects, but you've probably seen nothing about the Montford Point Marines. You've seen things about Vietnam, but you have really not taken the opportunity to look at the Vietnam veterans and realize they carry scars for us. So that's what I want people to see."

According to the release, the parade route will begin at JFK Blvd and North 16th Street with a brigade of over 250 motorcyclists and continue around City Hall, heading east on Market Street and concluding at North 5th Street where the Veterans Festival will take place. Simultaneous to the parade's kickoff, a paratrooper will make a dramatic coordinated jump and descend onto the Independence Mall landing approximately at 12:30 pm.

Philadelphians are encouraged to come out and support the vets and participants of the parade, but they are also encouraged to check out the Veteran's Day Parade Festival starting at 12 pm and continuing on until 4 pm in between 4th and 5th streets on Market Street. Vet Fest will feature plenty of fun activities, but also plenty of opportunities and information on services that are being offered for veterans and their families as well.

"There are many services that people don't know about, that's why we have the festival. It's something that is for the entire family and also for the entire community. Inside the festival this year, we have more youth-friendly activities for the children as well," says Murphy. "We also have the Phillie Phanatic coming this year too, and the Wells Fargo Stagecoach which you will be able to get on and take pictures—there will be lots of fun activities like that."

Vet Fest will also feature live performances, tasty treats from a variety of food trucks, a beer garden, face painting, a rock-climbing wall, plus a large projector screen to play the Eagles game at 1 pm.

According to the release, in addition to the celebration, veterans will be honored with a wreath-laying ceremony, a letter-writing and hand-painted flags station to send to active-duty service members, and a tree donation and planting from the Primex Garden Center.

"When people put their lives on the line for you, you can't ever say thank you enough. Coming out to observe the parade, clapping for them and showing them that you care about what they did and that you appreciate what they did is a reason to come out to the parade," says Murphy. "They deserve our appreciation, and they deserve people to come out and say thank you."

For more information on the Veteran's Day Parade and Vet Fest visit phillyveteransparade.org

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Philadelphia, PA 19132

Nov. 12 and Nov. 13 at 9:00 a.m.
Dedicated Senior Medical Center
6431 Sackett St.
Philadelphia, PA 19149

Nov. 14 at 10:00 a.m.
Perkin's Restaurant
706 N. Lansdowne Ave.
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Nov. 14 at 1:00 p.m.
International House Philadelphia
3701 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia, PA 19104

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Head to the Aquarium to see real-life "mermaids." ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

Everything you need to know about mermaids at the Adventure Aquarium

Say ahoy to mermaids and pirates at Camden's waterfront aquarium Nov. 2-Nov. 10. MADELINE PRESLAND

Mermaids become a part of our world at the Adventure Aquarium starting this weekend.

Head across the river from Penn's Landing to visit the aquarium in Camden for an ethereal aquatic experience. The "Mermaids" exhibit brings underwater grace and glamour to a daring backdrop. The mermaids will join a variety of fish and sharks while swimming around the 550,000-gallon Shark Realm tanks. Get even closer with display windows the size of movie screens in the Currents Ballroom. Though the aquarium has had mermaids in the past, this year features a new happy hour event for adults as well as plenty of activities for the younger pirate and mermaid fans.

For kids, this exhibit is an entire day of fun right out of a classic Disney film. Search for mermaids with the help of pirate actors. In the Shark Realm, follow the mermaids as they swim through the tanks while doing tricks and blowing bubble kisses. The mermaids swim alongside the largest collection of sharks on the East Coast, stingrays and menhaden. Follow the mermaid treasure map to collect stickers from stations throughout the exhibit and find the mermaid on dry land. The meet and greet is a wonderful opportunity for kids to take home a special memory. Don't miss mermaid and pirate face painting, complete with glitter tattoos, as well as sitting down to work on mermaid crafts.

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Adults will have the chance to experience the "Mermaids" exhibit and a gorgeous cocktail party during the brand new SIPS Undersea happy hour on Nov. 6. Make it an exciting date or work event. Take a quick PATCO train ride across the Delaware River after work on Nov. 6 to head to the event, which runs from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The $30 ticket includes full access to the aquarium after hours and your first cocktail.

In addition to showing off their beauty, the mermaid exhibit is an opportunity to help kids explore and learn more about one of the aquarium's most important goals. The exhibit is thoughtfully planned to educate guests on ocean conservation and how they can help reduce their own impact, such as saying no to single-use plastics including bags, straws and cups. Kids can even ask mermaids on dry land about how they can help keep the ocean clean for their animal friends.

"Mermaids" runs from Nov. 2-Nov. 10 at the Camden Adventure Aquarium, located at 1 Riverside Drive, Camden, NJ. Visit adventureaquarium.com for more info and to purchase tickets.

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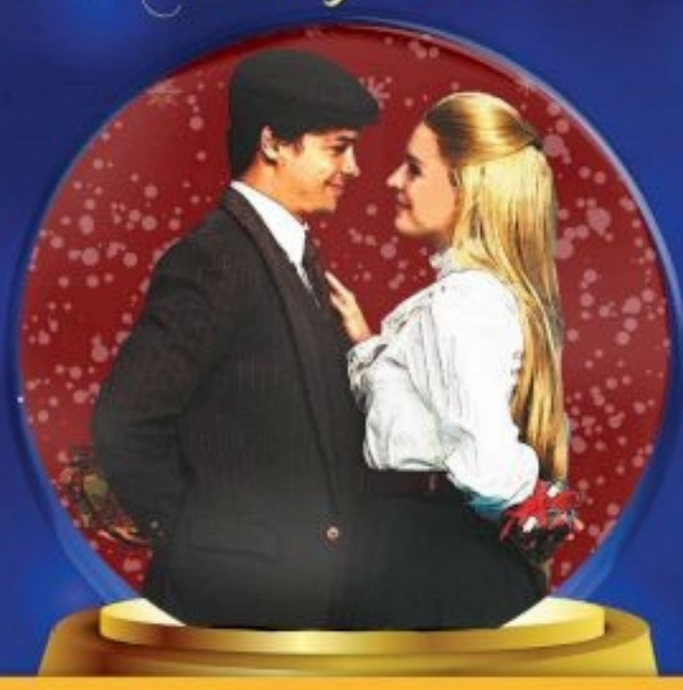

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'The Irishman' is a roller coaster ride for out-of-touch baby boomers.

Scorsese's newest mob epic leaves us cold.

JAMES CASE

PROVIDED

The most unforgivable thing a movie can be is boring. It's not that "The Irishman" is explicitly and obviously boring, it's just that in certain intervals it is painfully unaware of its plodding, self-congratulatory and at worse, vacuous nature and this heavy unawareness becomes difficult to watch.

Martin Scorsese created a recent Twitter uproar when he said that the films of the Marvel Cinematic Universe were the cinematic equivalent to "roller coasters." I have no strong opinion one way or the other about the MCU films. This article isn't about them. But if that's the case 'The Irishman" is a roller coaster ride for out-of-touch baby boomers.

"The Irishman" is similar to being at a family event and watching an uncle tell a story poorly. It's kind of out of place, repetitive and nobody has the heart to tell him to stop. Everyone smiles and nods, because hey, it's your uncle, he's told some great stories. Yeah, this one feels really familiar. Yeah, it's kind of hard to distinguish how it's different from all the "best stories" that your uncle has told. But you want to try, and you squint and you hope, and smile but nothing changes and you're forcing a smile...

So yeah, at times, "The Irishman" has a lot of problems. And by "at times" I really mean most of the movie. Because it has the undue problem of being way too long, with no realistic way to make it shorter.

It's sorely in need of an intermission, but the rub is that there's no one single sequence that carries enough confidence or gravitas to offer a nice little break from all. It's one meandering sequence that just keeps going and since the principals are so strongly aligned with a well-proven sensibility that was bulletproof thirty years ago, you better be on the edge of your seat, otherwise you just don't get it. A series of anecdotal and genre scenes happen in succession, honestly without much substance outside of aesthetics. The parts are interesting enough in small doses, it's that the sum of these parts is woefully incapable of doing what it's set out to do.

This larger concern,

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what the point of "The Irishman" actually is, is that the entire crux of the plot – you know, the story, the vehicle for the audience to take away something thematically important – that one Irish guy who ended up killing people for the mob influenced history, may be based on an exaggeration, presumption or outright lie. The juiciest admission from the source material is essentially that they armed the people who killed Kennedy – and for reasons that still feel unclear (despite it coming up immediately at a press conference) it's left out of the story entirely. It's like we're wading into a pool and being told it's the ocean.

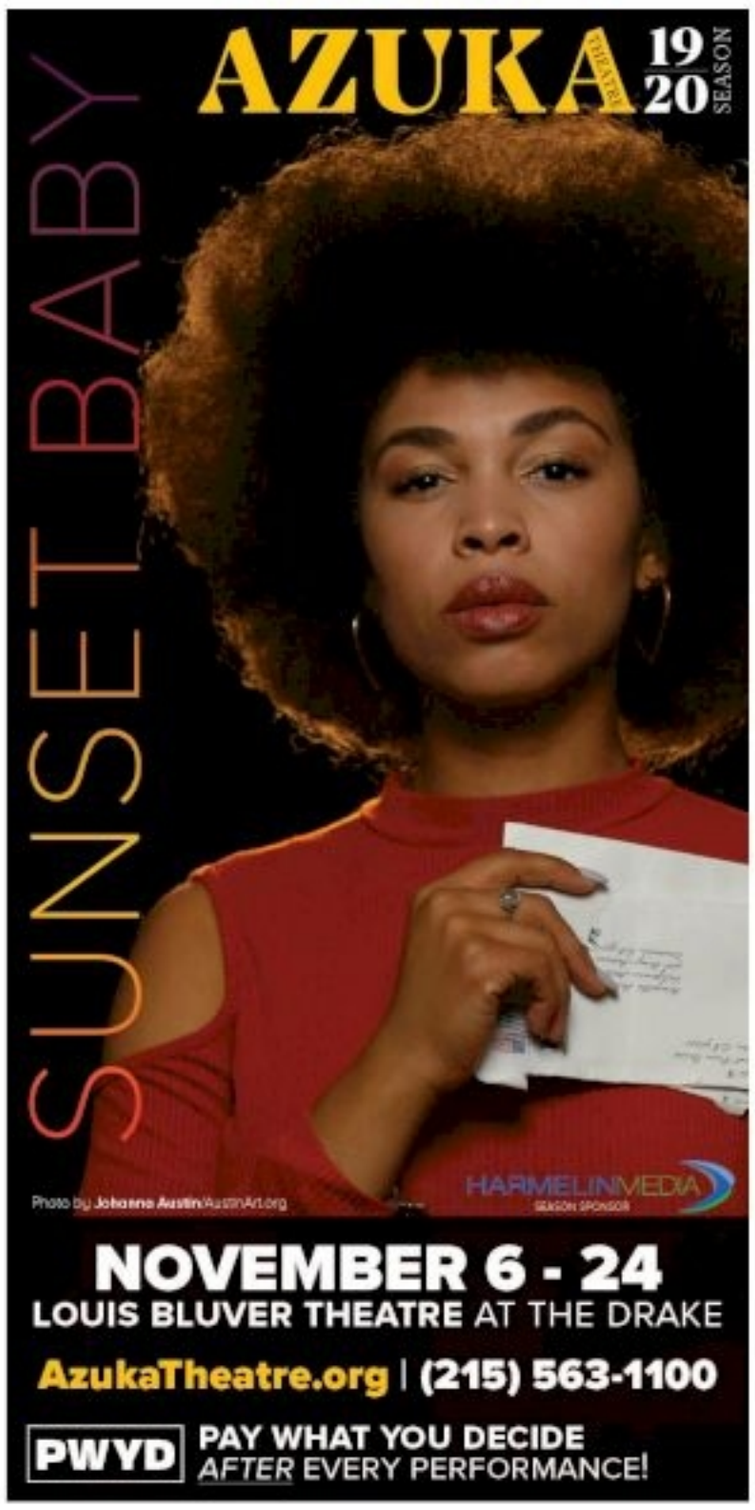
The issue this causes isn't contingent on whether the story is true or not. The issue is that the underlying ambiguity amplifies an already simmering conflict of themes and presentation – that the first two acts serve as a glorification – apologists can just call it an "examination," I guess, of the criminal lifestyle and male privilege, while the third act is a pretty facile exercise. It's the solemn part of the film where the characters start to think about the consequences of their behavior, because self-reflection is timely not when you commit murders but when their daughters won't talk to them because maybe you are a bad guy. That's a sensible story about humanity with thematic depth, right? This contrast between "crime fun" and "crime consequences" is Scorsese's bread and butter. In this instance, it is very, very stale.

Another thing that is hard to do is character building. It is not made from a character repeating questions that other characters ask and having a propensity for ice cream and punctuality and just repeating those things over and over again – I don't feel like I'm suddenly watching Jimmy Hoffa when that happens. Pacino chews up the set as we knew he would. De Niro is understated and affable and does great work with what he has. Pesci is incredible in a great role, which is essentially playing Joe Pesci in different moods, which is the role of a lifetime for someone exactly like Joe Pesci. This is in no way a bad thing.

The very bigness of "The Irishman" as an event contributes to this fatigue around the story. I can't imagine how many more times I can see these people shoot people while getting something somenew out of it. Reading that the producers see this film as a critique on male toxicity through an 'older perspective' only offers further hand wringing, discomfort and eyebrow lowering. There has to be more depth and female characters who aren't background cutouts of people with spare dialogue to fuel the male characters.

It's hard to offer it as a criticism of male toxicity when it also serves to glorify and satirize it, and the female characters offer literally nothing besides winsome looks and a desire to smoke cigarettes. We're told they have personalities but they have no room to actually do anything despite the bloated run time. The third act does its best to make some emotional depth and consequences for the characters' decision-making. We're meant to look down on these characters for their sins, however, we're also supposed to care about their insight to the human condition, making it contradictory and questionable of why we're watching what we're watching. Yes, people are both good and bad. Yes, dichotomies are something college freshmen have figured out. None of this makes compelling storytelling just because a guy murdered guys. It's like one really long, really bad episode of "The Sopranos."

It's like that older relative again, who's giving you the sage advice that they didn't take themselves. But they still have time to change and say something new. But no, they insist, it's too late. 'I still have time to tell you how you're wrong and how everything used to be better.'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I'm sure I'm not the only one, but I cannot STAND people who are passive-aggressive. Being direct is beneficial for everyone, so when I ask if something is wrong and you say you're fine but act a different way — that truly isn't helpful for anyone. There are a lot worse things in the world, but to be honest, it is one of my biggest pet peeves and if everyone learned to stand up for themselves a bit better I think the world would be a much better place.

Anonymous, *Metro New York reader*

the Grumble

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Make adjustments that will take the pressure off of you. Look at your options and consider the best way to go about improving your life.

Taurus Make a move. Trust and believe in what you can offer and accomplish. Get together with people you work well with to finalize plans.

Gemini Put more time and effort into personal changes that will make you look and feel your best. Address health issues and put a diet and exercise plan in play.

Cancer If something is bothering you, discuss it and eliminate the problem. Being open and honest about your feelings will bring you closer to your personal goals.

Leo Personal improvement should be your focus. You cannot please everyone, but you can be responsible for your own happiness.

Virgo Let go of whatever isn't working for you and surround yourself with what's important. Join forces with someone who shares your interests, concerns and beliefs.

Libra Think outside the box when it comes to new beginnings. You have to let go of the past to move forward. Cut out what is no longer working for you.

Scorpio Evaluate your current position and consider the changes you'd like to make. You have more control over what happens next than you realize.

Sagittarius Take care of business before you socialize. Protect yourself against negative publicity by not sharing information that is personal or that could easily be used against you.

Capricorn Use your charm and diplomacy if someone tries to stir up trouble. A calm and controlled attitude will put you in the driver's seat and out of harm's way.

Aquarius A change to the ways in which you handle people and personal matters will help you avoid complaints or criticism. Don't get into a conversation with someone too rigid to meet you halfway.

Pisces Set off on a new adventure. Travel and educational pursuits are favored, and spending more time with a loved one will bring you closer together.

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Trump impeachment effort passes first test in split U.S. Congress

Hearings in the next phase will be public.

A deeply divided U.S. House of Representatives took a major step in the effort to impeach President Donald Trump on Thursday when lawmakers approved rules for the next stage, including public hearings, in the Democratic-led inquiry into Trump's attempt to have Ukraine investigate a domestic political rival.

In the first formal test of support for the impeachment investigation, the Democratic-controlled House voted almost entirely along party lines – 232 to 196 – to move the probe forward in Congress.

The vote demonstrated unity among Democrats who accuse Trump of abusing his office and jeopardizing national security for personal political gain. But they did not pick up a single Republican vote.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi presides over the U.S. House of Representatives vote on a resolution that sets up the next steps in the impeachment inquiry of U.S. President Donald Trump. REUTERS

"It's a sad day. No one comes to Congress to impeach a president," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said before the vote.

Televised public hearings featuring U.S. officials testifying in Congress about alleged wrongdoing by Trump could crowd out other issues like the economy and immigration as voters turn their minds to the November 2020 presidential election.

That might damage Trump but some of his supporters say the impeachment drive could actually boost his re-election chances by showing him at loggerheads with Washington-based political foes.

Republicans accused Democrats of using impeachment to overturn the results of his 2016 victory.

"The Greatest Witch Hunt In American History!" Trump wrote on Twitter after the vote.

The probe focuses on a July 25 telephone call in which Trump asked his Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymr Zelensky, to investigate Trump's Democratic political rival Joe Biden, a former U.S. vice president, and his son Hunter, who had served as a director for Ukrainian energy company Burisma.

Biden is a leading candidate in the Democratic presidential nomination race to face Trump in the November 2020 election. He and his son have denied any wrongdoing.

> **"The Greatest Witch Hunt In American History!"**
>
> Trump wrote on Twitter after the vote.

Trump has also denied wrongdoing. Republicans have largely stuck by him, blasting the effort as a partisan exercise that has given them little input.

"The country next year will be deciding who our president is going to be. It should not be Nancy Pelosi and a small group of people that she selects that get to determine who is going to be our president," said Kevin McCarthy, the top House Republican.

Just two Democrats – Collin Peterson of Minnesota and Jeff Van Drew of New Jersey – voted against the measure. Both represent districts where Trump won in the 2016 election.

If the House eventually votes to impeach Trump, that would set up a trial in the Republican-controlled Senate. Trump would not be removed from office unless the Senate votes to convict him by a two-thirds margin, something that looks unlikely given Republican reluctance to move against the president.

REUTERS

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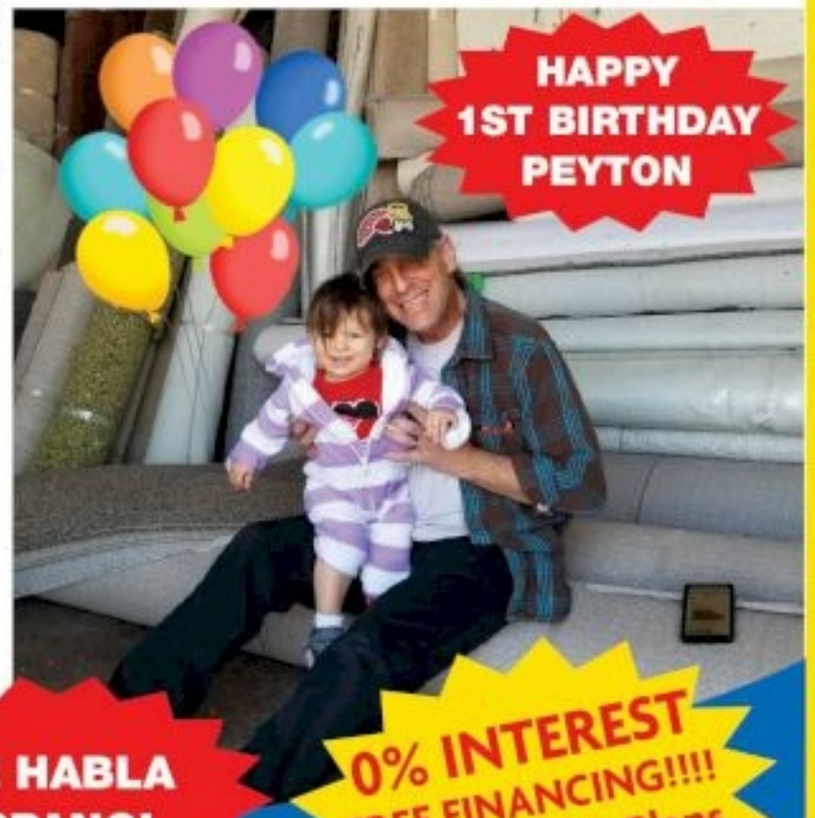

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Family demands answers as South Philly father lies in coma

A $10,000 reward is being offered for information on Frank Tarantella's attack.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

Doctors believe Tarantella's motor function could be impaired for at least a year. VIA CHRISTINE LASSITE

The family of a South Philly father who was beaten unconscious outside a bar earlier this month want answers, and they're offering up a hefty reward to get them.

As reported by the Philadelphia Inquirer, 48-year-old Frank Tarantella is laying in a coma after getting caught up in a brawl outside Cookie's Tavern on Oct. 11. He suffered serious injuries in the incident, including brain stem damage that will impair his motor function. No arrests have been made in connection to the incident, and as police investigate, Tarantella's fiancee is hopeful someone will come forward with tips.

In an interview with the Inquirer, Christine Lassiter said, "People know what happened. They saw it. I know there's people who know things who aren't coming forward."

Lassiter said Tarantella sometimes stayed the night at a friend's house nearby, so she didn't think much when he didn't return home that night. But the next day when she couldn't get a hold of him, she called local hospitals.

The Citizen's Crime Commission is offering a $10,000 reward for information that leads investigators to the person or people responsible for his injuries.

Additionally, a GoFundMe online fundraiser was launched this week, and as of Thursday had collected $1,200.

"Doctors say Frankie T could possibly have no brain function for up to a year, leaving his family with immense medical bills on top of lost income," the organizer writes on the page. "We would love for the South Philly Community and beyond to come together to support the Tarantellas during this difficult time with medical expenses. By donating, you will help eliminate some of the financial stress so they can focus on Frankie T.'s condition."

The couple has been together for 18 years, and they have a 15-year-old son named Frank, a high school freshman. Tarantella worked as an engineer at the Sheraton Philadelphia University City Hotel, and Lassiter works as a dispatcher for the Delaware River Port Authority.

Mayor Kenney signs law protecting rights of transgender and non-binary residents

Mayor Kenney signed a bill today that protects the rights of non-binary and trans individuals. Councilmember Helen Gym sponsored the bill, according to CBS.

The new law requires all youth organizations to create and implement policies to protect young transgender folks. Additionally, the law requires all public buildings to have access to gender-neutral bathrooms, including bathrooms throughout City Hall.

An extensive study performed by The Human Rights Campaign Foundation surveyed youths, after the 2016 election. The survey pulled information from over 50,000 young people from across the U.S. between 13-18 years of age. The study showed that 56 percent of those participants fell under the LGBTQ+ umbrella.

Eleven percent identified themselves as transgender, and within that 11 percent, 55 percent identified as non-binary. The study reported that post-2016 election, 70 percent saw an increase in bullying. Within that 70 percent, 63 percent said they saw bullying incidents motivated by people's sexual orientation, 55 percent saw bullying towards gender, and 54 percent saw bullying due to someone's gender expression. BECCA GLASSER-BAKER

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

Before we get to the Eagles - Bears betting preview, I should remind you about the best current offer in PA and NJ sports betting – a limited-time offer to obtain a free $50 VISA gift card and up to $250 in risk-free bonus money at **MetroBet.us/Sugar.**

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When you get into the second half of the NFL season, it's usually a good idea to ride with the team that's more desperate for a win.

It's why we picked the Eagles at +1.5 last Sunday on the road against the Bills, and it's why people shouldn't sleep on the 3-4 Bears in this game at the Linc this coming Sunday.

Everyone is aware by now that Bears quarterback Mitchell Trubisky is a Ryan Leaf-level bust, but the Bears will not be asking him to be Peyton Manning on Sunday against the Eagles' still-shaky secondary. Trubisky simply needs to limit mistakes, which is difficult for him to do – yes – but not entirely impossible.

ALL GETTY IMAGES

Consider that two weeks ago Trubisky and the Bears put up 25 points against the Saints. Twenty-five points is an explosion for Chicago, and despite a horrendous passer rating of 33.5 (he threw 20 incompletions!), Trubisky did toss two touchdowns and did not have an interception.

As for Chicago's famed defense, it's not as invincible as it was a year ago – or even last month. You can pass a little on Chicago's defense right now as they're allowing 230.6 yards per game (10th in the NFL). This could be a game where Carson Wentz is asked to throw it more than 40 times – something he has only done twice so far this year.

All told, this game is a difficult one to handicap considering that both teams haven't been great against the spread this season (the Eagles are 3-5 while the Bears are 2-5). But let's roll with Wentz and the Eagles, who certainly seemed to figure things out last week against the Bills.

It should be noted that following the Eagles' previous best win of the year (the 34-27 Thursday night win at Green Bay), they followed it up by thumping their next opponent at the Linc (31-6 over the Jets).

The play: Eagles -5

TWEET OF THE DAY

Ben Fawkes
@BFawkesESPN

The Browns were one of the most-heavily bet public teams to win the Super Bowl this offseason. One bettor hasn't given up hope, wagering $900 at 200-1 odds at @CGTechnology, per Tony DiTommaso.

Bet would win $180K.

Best bets

NFL Week 9 betting: Lions at Raiders

Sunday's Detroit Lions-Oakland Raiders clash at the Oakland Coliseum has all the makings of a shootout, so Over bettors shouldn't hesitate here.

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The Raiders are 30th in passing defense this year, and Matthew Stafford and company are capable of hitting them where it hurts. The Lions are fifth in passing yards per game in 2019 as well as passing yards per play.

Meanwhile, Detroit's defense is dead-last in stopping the pass while Oakland is a respectable 15th in passing yards per game and 11th in passing yards per play. Jon Gruden has done a good job at getting rookie running back Josh Jacobs involved in every game, but he can't afford to play small-ball if the Lions are hitting home runs left-and-right. Look for Derek Carr to drop back early and often in this one.

The trends indicate an Over is in store too, as both teams have exceeded the total in four of their last five overall contests.

The play: Lions v. Raiders Over

ROBERT CRISCOLA

VSiN DAILY LINE

NFL WEEK 9

CHICAGO BEARS AT PHILADELPHIA EAGLES -5

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS -1 AT PITTSBURGH STEELERS

NEW YORK JETS -3 AT MIAMI DOLPHINS

WASHINGTON REDSKINS AT BUFFALO BILLS -9.5

DETROIT LIONS AT OAKLAND RAIDERS -2

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DALLAS COWBOYS -7 AT NEW YORK GIANTS

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Eagles vs. Bears: What to watch for during Wild Card rematch

The Eagles look to make it two straight on Sunday against Chicago.

JOVAN ALFORD
letters@metro.us

Khalil Mack (left) and the Bears defense will try to slow down former teammate Jordan Howard (right) and the Eagles' budding run game. GETTY IMAGES

With a much-needed bye week coming up, the Philadelphia Eagles (4-4) are looking to start November on a winning note when they take on the Chicago Bears (3-4) on Sunday afternoon (1 p.m. ET, FOX) at Lincoln Financial Field.

This will be the third time in three seasons that these two squads have played each other. Last year, the underdog Eagles defeated the Bears, 15-14, in the NFC Wild Card game.

Heading into this weekend's matchup, the Eagles are coming off an impressive 31-13 road win last Sunday over the Buffalo Bills.

In that game, Philadelphia did a great job of committing to the running game, which racked up a season-high 218 yards. Former Bears running back Jordan Howard had 96 yards on 24 carries and a touchdown.

Rookie Miles Sanders added 74 yards on the ground, including an impressive 65-yard touchdown run to begin the third quarter. He also had three receptions for 44 yards.

Along with the running game, Philadelphia's defense did an outstanding job against Josh Allen and Buffalo's offense.

The Eagles' defense held the Bills to only 98 rushing yards and did not allow any of their wide receivers to reach the 100-yard receiving mark (J. Brown: 5 recs, 54 yards).

In regards to Chicago, they are coming off a tough one-point loss (17-16) to the Los Angeles Chargers at home. Kicker Eddie Pineiro missed a game-winning field goal in the waning moments of the fourth quarter.

Unlike last season, where the kicking game was a major issue for the Bears, the ongoing issue in 2019 has been the poor play from third-year quarterback Mitch Trubisky.

In six games, the former UNC signal-caller is only completing 64.6-percent of his passes for 1,092 yards, five touchdowns, and three interceptions.

At this point last season, Trubisky looked like a franchise quarterback, completing 64.2 percent of his passes for 1,949 yards, 16 touchdowns, and 7 interceptions.

It obviously has Bears fans wondering if the team needs to look elsewhere next season.

Therefore, who will come out on top in a rematch of last year's NFC playoff game? To answer that question and more, here are a couple of things to watch for in this highly contested Week 9 matchup:

FEEDING JORDAN HOWARD

This past offseason, the Bears traded Jordan Howard to the Eagles in an exchange for a fifth-round draft pick. Chicago's decision to get rid of Howard did not come as a surprise to many as the Bears went all-in on Tarik Cohen.

That being said, it was still strange to see a team give up on a running back, who had two 1,000-yard rushing seasons to begin his career.

Nevertheless, the Eagles are happy with what Howard has done for their offense this season. In eight games, the 24-year-old running back has 443 rushing yards on 100 carries and six total touchdowns (five rushing TDs).

If you compare Howard's stats to the Bears' rushing stats, you will see that no one has reached the 400-yard mark plateau. Their leading rusher is rookie David Montgomery, who only has 366 yards on 98 carries and three touchdowns.

Just based on those stats alone, one could infer that the Eagles won the trade, while the Bears made a mistake. Howard will get to prove Chicago wrong as he will be going up against a Bears' defense, which has only allowed 86 yards per game this season.

If the Eagles want to get the win on Sunday, they must lean on Howard, who will have a little something extra to play.

THE RETURN OF DESEAN JACKSON

Over the last several weeks, we've seen how anemic the Eagles' offense has been without the big play ability of DeSean Jackson.

Jackson, who suffered an abdominal injury against the Atlanta Falcons in Week 2, practiced on Wednesday for the first time in a month. The 32-year-old wide receiver was a limited participant, but head coach Doug Pederson is optimistic about him playing on Sunday.

If Jackson does indeed play on Sunday, he will not be 100-percent. However, just having his mere presence on the field should open up things for quarterback Carson Wentz and the rest of the Eagles' offense.

In his only game this season, Jackson torched the Washington Redskins' secondary in Week 1 to the tune of eight receptions (10 targets) for 154 yards and two touchdowns.

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CIVIL ACTION – LAW
NO.: 190800072

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
vs.
Raymond Fogel; Unknown Heirs and/or Administrators to the Estate of Norma Fogel, Defendants

TO: Unknown Heirs and/or Administrators to the Estate of Norma Fogel

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PLAINTIFF
VS.
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DEFENDANTS COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
CIVIL DIVISION
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

NO: 190800094

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33 As __ as an ape
35 Nickname for Margaret
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38 Sudden increase
39 Bridge
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42 Baseball's Yogi
43 Sandal features
45 Take into custody
46 "Any port __ storm"
47 Black suit
48 Razor user
51 Clobber
52 Fluid-filled pouch
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58 Mexican friend
60 Remove from office
61 Keep __ on; watch closely
62 Tier
63 Experts
64 Compass point
65 Reason to study

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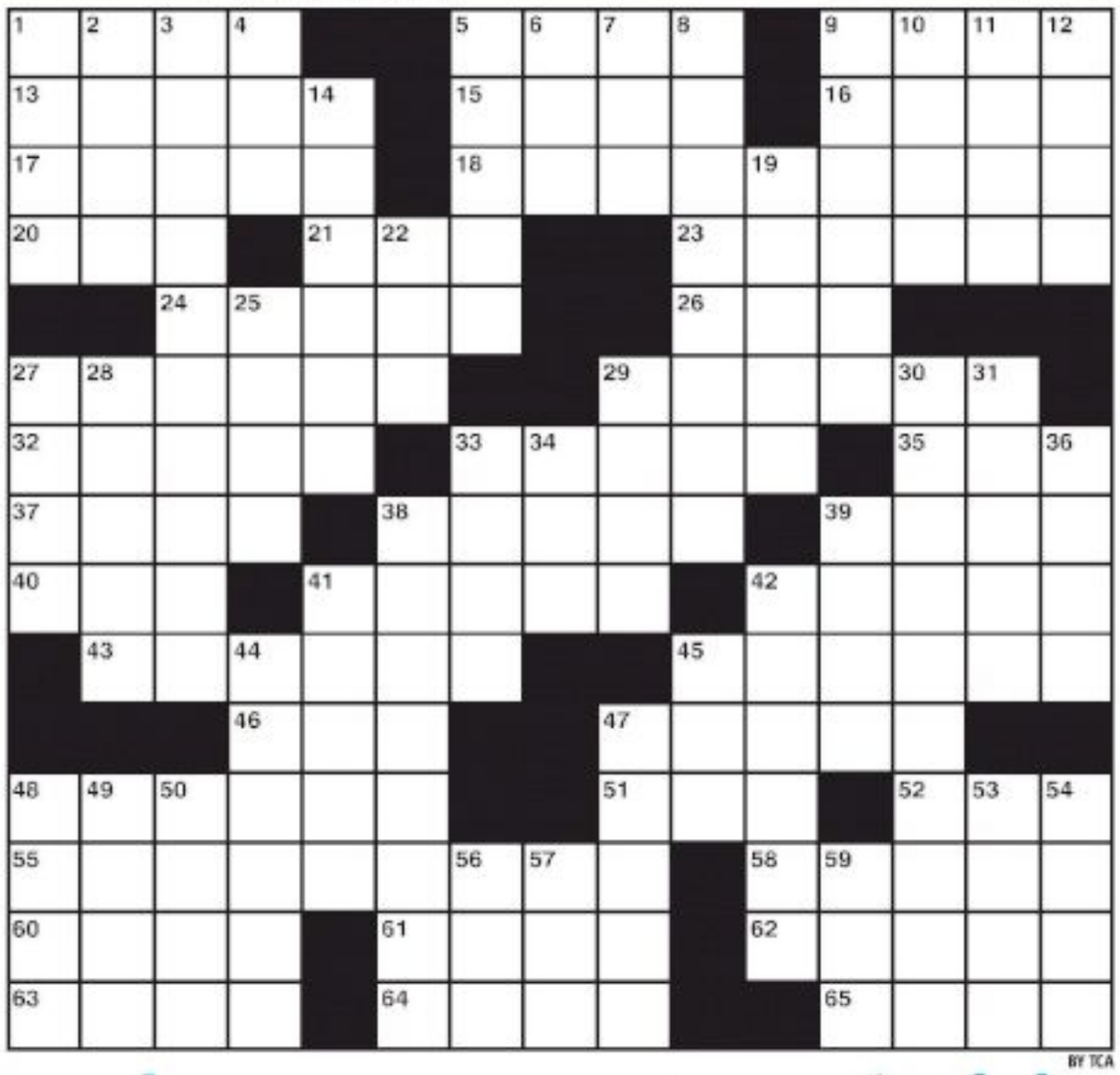
11 Misfortunes
12 __ machines; casino lures
14 Put to sleep before surgery
19 Tiny decorative mat
22 Common contraction
25 Easter flower
27 Chore
28 Vexes
29 Desert fruits
30 Tyrannical
31 Gets closer to
33 Colors
34 Flood refuge
36 Small fly
38 Go __ ways; split up
39 Belgrade native
41 More rational
42 Cruel; savage
44 Headed bolts
45 Actress Larter
47 Bosom
48 Word in a red octagon
49 Period of time
50 Additionally
53 Grows older
54 Barn youngster
56 Sheep's cry
57 Scale divisions: abbr.
59 Was introduced to



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	3			6			1	
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Yesterday's Answers

M	D	S			A	L	E	C	S		A	R	M	S
A	R	T	S		H	A	G	U	E		S	O	A	K
T	O	I	L		O	R	A	T	E		S	A	R	I
	P	R	O	T	R	U	D	E	D		I	R	K	S
			W	I	S	E			L	O	S			
S	C	H	E	M	E		T	W	I	L	I	G	H	T
T	H	O	S	E		G	R	I	N	D		A	I	R
R	I	O	T		S	U	I	N	G		J	U	D	E
A	N	D		T	I	L	T	S		P	A	G	E	S
P	A	S	S	A	B	L	E		R	E	C	E	S	S
			A	I	L			L	A	N	K			
W	O	R	D		I	M	P	O	R	T	A	N	T	
A	M	I	D		N	O	I	S	E		L	O	A	M
T	A	L	L		G	A	T	E	S		S	A	K	E
T	R	E	E		S	T	A	R	T			H	E	N

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NOVEMBER 6 AT 12 PM

Stay after the film for a Q&A with **Dr. Erol Veznedaroglu**, Global Neurosciences Institute at Crozer, and BLEED OUT creator & director, **Steve Burrows**.

Crozer-Chester Medical Center | 1 Medical Center Blvd.
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